

Smaller Government, Lower Taxes, More Transparency and Accountability

WASHINGTON D.C. – Rep. Darrell Issa, the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, called on the President and Congressional Democrats to embrace the principles and policies presented today by House Republicans in their “[Pledge to](#)”

[America](#)

which outlined concrete solutions to immediately tackle the issues facing our country, including job creation, spending restraint, national security, health care, and government reform.

“The political calendar should not be used as an excuse for inaction or to prevent the advancement of public policy ideas that can get our country moving forward in the right direction,” said Issa. “The American people should not have to wait until after the November elections for Congress to take decisive and definitive action to create jobs, lower taxes, reduce government waste and make the federal government more transparent and accountable.”

The preamble to "A Pledge to America" reaffirms Republicans' commitment to principles of smaller, more accountable government; economic freedom; lower taxes; fiscal responsibility; protecting life, American values, and the Constitution; and providing for a strong national defense. This new governing agenda is comprised of five specific policy plans that could be implemented right now if President Obama and Democratic Leaders would allow it:

- **Creating Jobs.** "A Pledge to America" reflects Americans' demand for immediate action on policies that will end uncertainty for small businesses and help our economy get back to creating jobs. This new governing agenda contains a plan to create jobs, end economic uncertainty, and make America competitive – including stopping all tax hikes, reining in red tape, and repealing ObamaCare's '1099 mandate.'

- **Cutting Spending.** "A Pledge to America" embodies Americans' rejection of the now-thoroughly discredited notion that we can simply tax, spend, and borrow our way to prosperity. This new governing agenda contains a plan to cut spending and reduce the size of government – including cutting government spending to pre-'stimulus', pre-bailout levels, imposing a hard cap on future discretionary spending, and ending TARP once and for all.

- **Reforming Congress.** "A Pledge to America" acknowledges that we cannot get our arms around the issues of the day when we have a government that refuses to listen to the people and ignores their priorities. This new governing agenda contains a plan to reform Congress and restore trust – including implementing 'read the bill' reform, allowing for more open and fair debate, and requiring that every bill contain a citation of Constitutional authority.

- **Repealing and Replacing The Job-Killing Health Care Law.** “A Pledge to America” recognizes that the American people continue to squarely oppose the government takeover of health care, with its higher costs, higher taxes, job-killing mandates, and Medicare cuts to pay for a massive new entitlement. This new governing agenda contains a plan to repeal and replace the job-killing health care law with common-sense reforms focused on lowering costs and protecting American jobs.

- **A Strong National Defense.** “A Pledge to America” reinforces Congress’s responsibility to help provide for a strong national defense and fashion a coherent strategy to confront and defeat the terrorist threat. This new governing agenda contains a plan to keep our nation secure at home and abroad – including passing clean troop funding bills, keeping terrorists off American soil, and fully funding missile defense.

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